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Letter dated 21 December 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the honour to write to you in connection with the consideration by the Security Council of the agenda item on non-proliferation under which a draft resolution on the Islamic Republic of Iran's nuclear issue is being discussed.

The Non-Aligned Movement attaches great importance to the issue and is following developments closely.

In order for the Security Council to duly take into account the position of the Movement in its deliberations, I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement on the Islamic Republic of Iran's nuclear issue adopted by the Non-Aligned Movement at its Fourteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government held in Havana from 11 to 16 September 2006 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rodrigo **Malmierca Díaz**
Ambassador

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Statement on the Islamic Republic of Iran's nuclear issue

1. The Heads of State or Government *reiterated* their principled positions on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation reflected in the Final Document of XIV Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Havana, Cuba, from 11-16 September 2006. They *considered* the developments regarding the implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

2. The Heads of State or Government *reaffirmed* the basic and inalienable right of all States, to develop research, production and use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, without any discrimination and in conformity with their respective legal obligations. Therefore, nothing should be interpreted in a way as inhibiting or restricting this right of States to develop atomic energy for peaceful purposes. They *furthermore reaffirmed* that States' choices and decisions in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear technology and its fuel cycle policies must be respected.

3. The Heads of State or Government *recognized* the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as the sole competent authority for verification of the respective safeguards obligations of Member States and *stressed* that there should be no undue pressure or interference in the Agency's activities, especially its verification process, which would jeopardize the efficiency and credibility of the Agency.

4. The Heads of State or Government *welcomed* the cooperation extended by the Islamic Republic of Iran to the IAEA including those voluntary confidence-building measures undertaken, with a view to resolve the remaining issues. They *noted* the assessment of the IAEA Director-General that all nuclear material declared by Iran had been accounted for. They *noted*, at the same time, that the process for drawing a conclusion with regard to the absence of undeclared material and activities in Iran is an ongoing and time-consuming process. In this regard, the Heads of State or Government *encouraged* Iran to urgently continue to cooperate actively and fully with the IAEA within the Agency's mandate to resolve outstanding issues in order to promote confidence and a peaceful resolution of the issue.

5. The Heads of State or Government *emphasized* the fundamental distinction between the legal obligations of States to their respective safeguards agreements and any confidence-building measures voluntarily undertaken to resolve difficult issues, and *believed* that such voluntary undertakings are not legal safeguards obligations.

6. The Heads of State or Government *considered* the establishment of nuclear-weapons-free zones (NWFZs) as a positive step towards attaining the objective of global nuclear disarmament and reiterated the support for the establishment in the Middle East of a nuclear-weapon-free zone, in accordance with relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. Pending the establishment of such a zone, they *demanded* Israel to accede to the NPT without delay and place promptly all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive IAEA safeguards.

7. The Heads of State or Government *reaffirmed* the inviolability of peaceful nuclear activities and that any attack or threat of attack against peaceful nuclear

facilities — operational or under construction — poses a great danger to human beings and the environment, and constitutes a grave violation of international law, principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and regulations of the IAEA. They *recognized* the need for a comprehensive multilaterally negotiated instrument, prohibiting attacks, or threat of attacks on nuclear facilities devoted to peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

8. The Heads of State or Government *strongly believed* that all issues on safeguards and verification, including those of Iran, should be resolved within the IAEA framework, and be based on technical and legal grounds. They *further emphasized* that the Agency should continue its work to resolve the Iranian nuclear issue within its mandate under the Statute of the IAEA.

9. The Heads of State or Government *also strongly believed* that diplomacy and dialogue through peaceful means must continue to find a long term solution to the Iranian nuclear issue. They *expressed* their conviction that the only way to resolve the issue is to resume negotiations without any preconditions and to enhance cooperation with the involvement of all necessary parties to promote international confidence with the view to facilitating the Agency's work on resolving the outstanding issues.